

10/030999

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:) Atty. Docket: STURK 0002
Holger KLAPPROTH)
Serial No. 10/030,999))
Filed: January 16, 2002))
LINKER SYSTEM FOR ACTIVATING SURFACES FOR BIOCONJUGATION (As Amended))) Date: February 19, 2002)

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT (B)

BOX: Non-Fee Amendment

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

Kindly amend the above-captioned application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Kindly amend claims 1, 15-17, 18 and 19 by replacing them as follows:

(Amended) Linker system for activating surfaces for bioconjugation having the 1. following general formula (I):

 $X-[(Y_1)_i-Q-(Y_2)_j]_k-Z$ (I)

wherein:

X is a reactive group capable of covalently binding to a surface,

Z is a reactive group capable of covalently binding to a biomolecule,

